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Title:

Speech notes for the Lithuanian evening at Lithuanian House, 6 Eastery Street, Norwood

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Speech Notes for the Lithuanian Evening at
Lithuanian House, 6 Eastery Street, Norwood.

Mr. Nelson, Mrs. Mikuzis, Ladies &
Gentlemen :

Thank you for inviting me here this evening.

I was very pleased to accept, not only
because of my long-standing admiration of
the Lithuanian settlers of this State,
but also because, as the Member of State
Parliament for the Electorate of Norwood,
I think I shoul say that the people of
Norwood are very proud to have Lithuanian

House in their district.

● For the fact is that people from Baltic Europe have made a vital contribution to this State's prosperity and welfare over the past thirty years - and I don't think this is recognised as fully as it should be.

And a classic example of this is tonight's event in which, in conjunction with Woodley Wines, you are launching Miss Aldona Stalber as your entrant in the ● Miss Australia Quest.

The Spastic Centre is, of course, one of the State's major charities - and the job the organisers have done over the years has been magnificent.

The recently announced one-point-five million dollar multi-purpose complex on Woodville Road is just one example. It will represent a new concept in schooling and treatment for Spastic children.

The project is an excellent indication of the vitality of the Centre and the wide ranging responsibilities it has taken on over the past twenty years.

Of course, in its development the Centre has received significant assistance from State and Federal Governments, and this assistance is continuing. Over the past four years the State has funded the Centre through capital and maintenance grants amounting to some \$350,000.

The Australian Government under the Nursing Homes Act now makes good the Centre's deficit in running costs each year, and this has now enabled the Centre to plan for the future without nagging financial uncertainty.

But, nevertheless, the success of the Spastic Centre at Woodville remains heavily in the hands of its public supporters and fund-raising events such as The Miss Australia Quest.

It is for this reason also that I am pleased to be here this evening and be able to officially 'sash' Miss Aldona Stalber.

Thank You.

● ('Sash' Miss Stalber).